

William L. Garrison.

Boston, May 23, 1837.

PHELPS
MSS.

Dear Bro. Phelps:

Your letter of the 16th, signifying your willingness to act as the General Agent of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, on certain specified terms, has given us all much pleasure. I meant to have sent you a reply on Saturday; but friend Southard did not succeed in getting a Board meeting together, and I thought it would be useless to send you back an indefinite answer. Yesterday afternoon, however, we had a meeting of the Board, and your letter was read to them. It was then voted, unanimously, that the terms stipulated in your letter, for one, two and three years, be complied with. As to the \$400 in advance, and instantaneously, we ~~had~~ hardly knew what to do, our treasury being empty, and money being as scarce as pity for the colored race. A committee was raised, however, to obtain as much as possible by to-day at 12 o'clock, at which time the steam-boat mail closes. The result is, the enclosed Draft for two hundred dollars. The remainder of the \$400 will be made up promptly in the course of a fortnight. We earnestly hope that the enclosed will enable you to come on, especially to our Convention, even if you should be necessitated to return to New-York for a short time.

You can leave N. Y. as late as Monday afternoon at 5 o'clock, and arrive here at the time the Convention will open - but we should prefer to see you, if convenient, on Saturday. Do make one of our number on this momentous occasion. Our Convention will be held in the Methodist church, Piedmont-st. formerly Mr. Sabine's - all others have been refused to us. Shame upon the Salem-street society! How our enemies will taunt us! Mr. Torone, I understand, is opposed to our having the house, for prudential reasons! He recently declined making a prayer at a meeting in behalf of the Colored Samaritan Asylum. God will confound such a time-serving policy. You will see, by the next Liberator, what kind of refusals we have received from all quarters.

(3) You will receive this to-morrow forenoon. You will greatly oblige me by sending me, if you can, by the mail of to-morrow afternoon, a proof-sheets of the resolutions and doings of the annual meeting, which I presume will appear in the next Emancipator - so that I shall receive ^{them} by Thursday, 1 o'clock, and thus be enabled to insert them in the Liberator this week. I shall look for them anxiously, and keep my columns open, waiting. (2)

If Mr. Stanton is in New-York, tell him I am very desirous that he should see Dr. Cox, and get an accurate copy of R. J. Breckinridge's will in his possession, (a queer document,) emancipating his slaves prospectively. If he has left,

will you do me this favor?

I am almost penitish to learn the proceedings of the General Assembly. It seems that Witherspoon has not been re-elected moderator, but Elliot of Ohio. This is another sign of the times. I pray that our abolition friends in that body may be faithful and fearless. They have two formidable opponents in R. J. Breckinridge, and Plumer of Virginia: yet why should they fear, or hold back?

Of course, should you come to the Convention, we shall expect you and yours at No. 5, Playward Place.

Yours, lovingly,

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

A. A. Phelps.

(Private.)



3²/₁₂

Amos A. Phelps
Editor of the Emancipator,
New York City.